

SOUTHAMPTON UFO GROUP NEWSLETTER NO 74

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HAPPY

1997

AND REMEMBER

THE TRUTH IS

OUT THERE

SOMEWHERE !!!

NEWSLETTER NO. 74 DECEMBER 1996.

EDITORIAL.

Whilst I have been happily typing up this last edition of the newsletter for 1996, may I wish you all a very happy new year and a very prosperous new year. I will be making my new year resolutions and included in this will be such things as hoping for more co-operation within the UFOlogy fraternity in 1997 (A lot of wishful thinking here I think!) and maybe a little bit more understanding of the UFO phenomenon with a release of more government information (I think my new years resolution should be shelved already, maybe for a century or two with the state of UFOlogy at the present !!!!). The newsletter is somewhat smaller this edition as your editor is off from work with damaged ligaments in his knee... AAAAAhhhhhhhhh ! I hear you all say ... So I have decided to get this edition out now as it is already 4 weeks late and I hope to make up for it in the next edition once I have been to hospital.

WHAT THE PRESS HAD TO SAY IN JULY 1995.

REGIONAL ARTICLES.

- 6.7.95 : Cornishman : Manchester 'UFO' may have been seen at Penzance.
- 6.7.95 : Sevenoaks Chronicle (Kent) - 'I saw a UFO'.
- 8.7.95 : Glasgow Evening Times : New Twist in Alien Mystery.
- 10.7.95 : Hartlepool Mail : Musical UFO.
- 10.7.95 : Stoke-on-Trent Evening Sentinel - Was it an Orb, was it a Plane ?
- 10.7.95 : Northern Echo : Watch out - They're Still Out There.
- 12.7.95 : Northumberland Herald and Post : Strange... But True....
- 13.7.95 : Hinckley Herald : Couple Claim UFO Chased them Home.
- 13.7.95 : Greenock Telegraph : No Title.
- 14.7.95 : Coalville Times : Strange Sightings in the Desert.
- 17.7.95 : Manchester Evening News : Science Fiction over Little Green Men.
- 19.7.95 : Cumbernauld News (Scotland) : Puzzle over a Mystery Object.
- 19.7.95 : East Anglian Daily Times : Object in Sky Puzzles Student.
- 21.7.95 : Westmoreland Gazette (Kendal) - UFO Mystery.
- 24.7.95 : Sheffield Star - City Scientist Blasts UFO Video.
- 24.7.95 : Plymouth Evening Herald - Torpoint Star Trek for UFO Hunters.
- 25.7.95 : Colchester Yellow Advertiser : The Y Files - Inside the Essex Triangle.
- 27.7.95 : Fleetwood Weekly News : Flying Saucers Assessed.
- 27.7.95 : Willenhall Adnews - The Truth is out There.
- 28.7.95 : Matlock Mercury (Derbyshire) : UFO Spotters Spaced out by Sightings.
- 28.7.95 : Dundee Courier & Advertiser : 'Extra-terrestrial Capital' will be in Conference
Spotlight.
- 28.7.95 : Craven Herald (Skipton) : Expert Probes UFO Sighting.
- 31.7.95 : Dundee Courier and Advertiser : Woman is left Bewildered by UFO Sighting.
- 31.7.95 : Dundee Evening telegraph : Flood of calls after Reported UFO Sighting.

NATIONAL ARTICLES.

- 2.7.95 : *Mail on Sunday* - *ET Lives, Says Man from the Ministry.*
- 6.7.95 : *The Independent* - *Hot Property from Outer Space.*
- 9.7.95 : *Sunday Telegraph* - *How UFO's Behave (Letter).*
- 11.7.95 : *The Guardian* - *Why it's Easier to believe in UFO's Than God.*
- 13.7.95 : *The Guardian* - *Spaced Out (Letter).*
- 16.7.95 : *Sunday Telegraph* - *Going Round in Circles with the Martians.*
- 16.7.95 : *The People* - *The Alien... and the Film they tried to stop you seeing !*
- 27.7.95 : *The Guardian* - *Not as we know it. (Letter).*
- 28.7.95 : *The Sun* - *Is this an Alien ?*
- 28.7.95 : *Daily Telegraph* - *A Possible Explanation.*
- 28.7.95 : *The Guardian* - *Alien Man Flies Home.*
- 29.7.95 : *The Times* - *'Film of Dead Aliens' adds Fuel to Debate over UFO.*
- 29.7.95 : *Daily Telegraph* - *ET? I Just Don't Believe it !*
- 30.7.95 : *Sunday Express* : *Cosmic Fireball Sparks Panic.*
- 30.7.95 : *Sunday Express* : *One who got away.*
- 31.7.95 : *The Times* - *Military Reports on UFO Destroyed.*

NEWSPAPER UNKNOWN.

- 5.7.95 : *Night Lights* set off UFO Probe.

MAGAZINE ARTICLES.

- 7.95 : *Satellite Tv Europe* - *Flights of Fancy (Letter).*
- 12.7.95 : *Bella* - *Out of this World ?*
- 15.7.95 : *The Psychic News* : *PN Prints First Stills from 'Alien' Film in UK Exclusive.*
- 26.7.95 : *EVA* - *UFO Chased us into a Time Warp.*
- 30.7.95 : *Yes Magazine* - *'It Glowed White in the Night Sky'.*

CROP CIRCLE ARTICLES.

- 7.7.95 : *Shropshire Star (Wellington)* - *It's Shropshire's Twilight Zone...*
- 7.7.95 : *Hampshire Chronicle* - *No Title (Photo of Punchbowl Formation).*
- 14.7.95 : *Hemel Hempstead Berkhamsted & Tring Express* : *No Title.*
- 14.7.95 : *Crewe Chronicle* : *Investigation into Crop Circles Puzzle.*
- 20.7.95 : *Milton Keynes Citizen* - *What a Crop of Circles.*
- 27.7.95 : *Lancashire Evening Post* - *Mystery Outbreak of Crop Circles.*
- 29.7.95 : *Independent Weekend Magazine* : *'One Couple were Blown off their Feet when a Circle Suddenly Formed Round them in the Middle of a Walk,*

PRESS/TV/RADIO MATTERS OVER THE PAST MONTH.

PRESS.

26.11.96 : *Southampton Evening Echo*. (letters).

Strange Sighting in the Evening Sky....

I am writing to ascertain whether any UFOs were sighted over Fareham on Friday November 15 at approx. 4.15pm.

I have told friends about it and have had the mickey taken out of me constantly since. I have not witnessed any unusual phenomena before.

I was playing golf with 3 others at the time. It was getting dark and we were approaching the 8th hole and the sky was clear.

I noticed a large bright orange light over Fareham Civic Hall. It was still. I observed it for about 30 secs and it didn't move. I turned away for between 5 & 10 secs, looked up again and it was nowhere to be seen. My partners saw this light but didn't share my curiosity.

We were approx. 1 mile from the civic buildings at the time, playing golf at Cams Hall. I would like to know if anyone else has reported a similar sighting on this date.

M.J.Poirrier...Fareham.

(Second letter)

You asked for readers to write regarding 'X-files/UFO' experiences. I recall many years ago that local events did hit the headlines and I stumbled across those events in the library.

UFOs Over Hampshire by Robert Price reports that on November 14, 1976 at 9pm Joyce Bowles and Ted Pratt witnessed a 'sighting' near Chilcombe. On that same evening Mr P.J.Baker and Mr C.Privett independently also witnessed 'sightings'.

On March 7, 1977 Joyce Bowles was 'contacted' again at about 10pm between Chilcombe and Nether Wallop this time with her friend Ann Stickland. Joyce claims an alien talked to her but has always refused to say anything but will do 'when the time is right'.

These events take some believing, but in the cause of good journalism 20 years later 'is the time now right?' Surely Joyce would love to pass on the wisdom of her meeting before it is too late!

R.Lacham... Calmore.

1.12.96 : *News of the World* : *UFO me a Million.*

(Man tells insurers : I had close encounter of the third party kind).

A top insurance company is to boldly go where no other has gone before - considering a £1 Million payout to a man who claims he was abducted by aliens.

UFO fanatic Joseph Carpenter is over the moon that City money men are taking him seriously. The 23yr old electrician from Edmonton, North London, bought the £102.50 policy in October to guard against kidnap by visitors from outer space.

SHINING.

Just one month later Joseph was filling in his claim form. and he swears he has video proof. Now his insurance company GRIP have employed scientists to verify his X-Files-style report.

'I have camcorder footage of a triangular craft shining a light down on me and taking me off the ground', claimed Joseph. 'And I've also got DNA evidence found on the ship. It's like a claw and definitely not of this Earth. It all happened while I was UFO spotting in Swindon, Wiltshire, near a military base. 'I got the policy as I'm a firm believer in unidentified flying objects and wanted to put my money where my mouth is'.

The insurance company have admitted they initially offered alien cover as a stunt, along with protection against Bobbiting (amputation of a man's private parts by his enraged spouse) and virgin birth.

FEETLE.

But now director Simon Burgess admits: 'Mr Carpenter's claim is being treated very seriously. We didn't think anyone would go this far.

'The information is now being assessed by a major British company and evidence offered by the policyholder is under investigation by a Cambridge college. The underwriters have set aside reserves sufficient to meet the full claim. 'We set out with a policy to part feeble-minded people from their cash - now it looks like it may backfire'.

But Joseph could have trouble getting insured next year - after blowing his no claims bonus the premium will rocket.....

4.12.96 : Daily Mail.

Question : Has Patrick Moore ever seen a UFO ?

Patrick Moore was wrong to suggest in an earlier answer that astronomers never see unidentified flying objects. P Sturrock's survey of American astronomers a few years ago found several had observed unexplained objects but were reluctant to talk about them for fear of ridicule by their peers.

The world's first known UFO photograph was taken by astronomer Jose Bonilla through his telescope from an observatory at Zacatecas, Mexico in August 1883.

Since then, many famous astronomers, including Dr J. Allen Hynek, Professor Emeritus at North-western University and scientific adviser to the United States Air Force for 21 years, have reported UFOs.

Clyde Tombaugh, one of the most celebrated of modern astronomers after his discovery of the planet Pluto, was baffled by a UFO he and his wife observed from Las Cruces, New Mexico.

It depends on how one defines a UFO. Many people assume this to mean 'alien spacecraft', and few astronomers have ever claimed to see such a thing, but a stargazer who didn't see any of the many fascinating, unresolved wonders of the atmosphere would not be particularly observant.

Jenny Randles.

4.12.96 : Southampton Daily Echo : Intriguing UFO Tales. (Letter).

I was interested to see the subject of UFOs in the letters page (November 26). In spite of all the 'little green men' jibes, or those 'Martians', etc, UFOs haven't 'gone away'.

Your correspondent mentions Bob Price's book 'UFOs over Hampshire', and may not know that there is, currently, an updated reprint of it.

As to Joyce Bowles 'close encounter of the fourth kind' (i.e.: actual alleged contact with UFO occupants), the year of 1977 was indeed a busy one for 'Ufologists', as was 1978, although many of us didn't realise it until later in our investigations.

1977, in fact, was one of my own 'watersheds' in my 50 years of UFO study and experiences, when a 'metallic triangle' hovered and then shot away from over my then home in Portswood, Southampton, all in absolute silence, on November 28.

I was extremely fortunate, for my sanity, to find, after much telephoning around the various authorities including the Echo, to find 5 witnesses travelling along the M27 at Bursledon. One of them, Monty Worlock, a well known jazz musician still playing, confirmed my sighting, backed up by his fellow travellers, describing the 'craft' as hovering and speeding off in a short burst of incredible velocity.

Joining the Southampton UFO Group a few years ago I discovered the general opinion that there is NOTHING the authorities can DO about this phenomenon, so they either issue denials or keep the mouths tightly shut !

The Echo letters only serve to show us more pieces of the jigsaw, in a total picture of cosmic proportions. It is now up to us, for the next move.

Ernie Sears... Netley Abbey.

TV.

- 18.11.96 : Sci Fi Channel - Sightings - Autopsy : Exposing a Fake / Cattle Mutilations / Canada UFO Survey.
20.11.96 : Discovery Channel - UFO - Down to Earth. (Rpt)
20.11.96 : BBC1 - Here and Now - Bonneybridge UFO on Film.
22.11.96 : Sky One - Sightings - Generational Abductions / Saucer-shaped Aircraft.
25.11.96 : Sky One - Sightings - The Watchers / Houston (Texas) UFO's.
27.11.96 : Discovery Channel - UFO - Down to Earth. (Rpt).
28.11.96 : Sky One - Sightings - Silent Intruders (Hunter AFB UFO) / MUFON Field Investigators Handbook / Nellis AFB UFO Update.
30.11.96 : Discovery Channel - UFO - Down to Earth. (Rpt).
2.12.96 : EarthScan Special Report - Animal Mutilations (Scotland) / Crop Circles / Abductions and Swedish UFO Archives.
5.12.96 : Sky One - Sightings - GAO Report on Roswell / American UFO Survey / Anatomy of an Autopsy.
6.12.96 : The Why Files - Welsh UFO's.
7.12.96 : Sky One - The Extraordinary - The Knowles Family UFO Encounter.
9.12.96 : Sky One - Sightings - The MJ12 Documents / Cattle Mutilation Update.
9.12.96 : The Why Files - UFO Filmed over Kent by Jerry Anderson of UFOMEX on 16.9.96.
12.12.96 : Sky One - Sightings - UFO Encounter at 30,000ft / Crop Circle Update.
12.12.96 : Discovery Channel - Arthur C. Clarke's Mysterious Universe - UFO's.
13.12.96 : The Why Files - The UFO Conspiracy, London (Features Area 51).

RADIO.

3.12.96 : Radio 5 Live.

This announced that a young man had made a claim for £1 million for his alleged abduction by aliens and he claims he had the proof. There was a short interview with a rep from the insurance company who are paying out the money.. We were later to find out that it was all a hoax..... !!!!

UFO HOTLINE.

Charges : 36p STANDARD Rate 48p PEAK Rate.

BUFORA WEEKLY NEWS UPDATE : 0891 121 886.

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION DETAILS.

The Newsletter consists of no less than 5 double-sided A4 pages and press items that may be of interest to you the reader.

THE NEWSLETTER COSTS £5 PER YEAR INCLUDING POSTAGE AND IS

***** MONTHLY *****.

GROUP MEETING - 24.11.96.

At 7pm I looked out of my front room window and looked at the bleak winter weather, heavy rain that soaks you through to the skin and a miserable looking evening. I had received a couple of phonecalls from people who said that they were unable to attend the meeting. I started to wonder if anyone would turn up on this miserable night. I struggled up to the hall laden with cups, drinks, briefcase and magazines. When I arrived, one person was on the front steps like a drowned rat and a couple of other people were sat in their cars. In all, 18 people attended the meeting and as a number did not turn up, I was very surprised to say the least at the turnout. There was a number of new faces as well as old and a couple of surprises. The evening was to include a book signing session for Mr Bob Prices who's book, 'UFOs Over Hampshire and the Isle of Wight' has just been republished. But unfortunately, the books did not arrive in time and Bob was kind enough to give us a short talk about the book and his research into it. Also, we had a short presentation concerning a course at Totton college starting in January 1997 lasting for 10 weeks on the subject of UFO's, with the course costing around £40 for the 10 weeks. We finally sat around in a circle and had a group discussion which with hindsight, I wish I had a tape recorder there to record it. At times, it got rather heated and many people had a number of valuable points to make. At 10.30 it was time to end the meeting, but I found it very difficult to get people to leave and we finally finished nearer 11pm. A great meeting this time round and the next meeting hopefully will be towards the end of January 1997.

BUFORA NEWSFILE.

The cost of subscription is £7.00 for 6 issues or £13.00 for 12 issues.

Contact :

Michael Hudson, Linden Trees, 70 High Street, Wingham, Kent, Ct3 1B9.

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THE WHEATEAR'S COLUMN.

ISSUE 17 AUGUST 1996 - THE CEREALOGIST.

Apprehension grew when I opened up to page 2 and saw that the Journal now has joint editorship along with its original editor George Wingfield, John Sayer has joined the Cerealologist. John who enthused us a while back with his carpet circles (Circles found in his household carpet). When I saw it's consultants were people like Richard Andrews, Leonnie Starr and Busty Taylor the term 'NEW LOOK' seemed misplaced. It did have in its favour a 3 page list of this year's crop circle's, a report from Michael Green on soil samples done by A.D.A.S from crop circles, showed some interesting results. The Telegraph Hill formation of last year (95) came out looking poor for instance, despite some anomalies reported by some at the time !

An article by Richard Andrews seemed aimed at the beginner or someone who has yet to enter a circle and Busty Taylor it would seem has turned his attention, like another prominent circle expert, to UFO studies in a two page piece. Crop Circles were never mentioned until the last paragraph, 'In 85 I got involved in my first crop circle' can't wait Busty ! Really ! who wants to read of sightings going back 40 years of UFO's in a magazine about crop circles, not me for one. Highlights of this issue for me were an article by Ronald Hill who showed by graphs that the majority of Crop Circle's are made at the weekends and peak between July 22nd to the 31st, the holiday period. In conclusion, it would seem the aliens work their hardest at the period's while we are relaxing the most or as Mr Hill puts it 'Perhaps there is a more simpler explanation that I have overlooked', indeed Mr Hill. John Sayer mentions individuals who are still proclaiming the video showing small UFO's making a Crop Circle at Olivers Castle, Wiltshire this year to be genuine (No doubt for financial reasons ?). sadly missing is any word or comment from George Wingfield on this years crop activity. I hope this is corrected by the next issue. At £3, The Cerealologist was rather pricey for this particular issue.

READERS SIGHTINGS....

I have recently heard from my friends that you can help me with some U.F.O information (On its way...ED), because a few weeks ago, I was looking at the stars through my new telescope and I saw a bright light moving and stopping suddenly. Through my telescope, it was very bright, but I could tell it was shaped like an egg and then it went. I tried following it, but it vanished before I could catch up with it.

Andrew Norton.

Just making a report of what occurred at Ardleigh reservoir, Colchester, Essex. I and my brother Roy, went on a 2 night/3 day angling session at the reservoir. On the second night, Wednesday 11th, at 8pm, the weather being overcast, with a light breeze and slightly chilly. I sat in our estate to listen to some tapes. When the tapes, Roy rolled his sleeping bag over himself. This was around 8.45, and at 9pm while I was looking across the reservoir towards the dam wall, I noticed what I assumed was an aeroplane. This then appeared then as a small sun, but orange in colour. this then moved to the right and I woke Roy up. As he looked, the object, bright orange and perfectly round, slowly descended behind the silhouette of a tree in the distance behind the dam wall. There was a light orange glow straight down underneath it before it went out of sight. It was not a large balloon or a plane.

Alan Kirby.

SUFORIA (ARTICLE NO.2).

The one question many people ask is why UFO's are so often called Flying Saucers when, very often, they are in fact cigar, triangular shaped etc. It all started on 24th June 1947 when an American pilot witnessed a group of strange objects in the sky. When he described them, he explained that 'they looked like saucers skipping across the water'. From this report, an anonymous journalist coined the term flying saucer, this was to become adapted by Captain Ed. Rupelt who was the USAF intelligence officer responsible for such matters, to the familiar three letters we now use, 'UFO'.

In the 50 years since modern UFOlogy has come about, much has taken place, far too much to place in this article, although I will be going through many cases in the coming months.

Before continuing, I must advise anybody who has not yet read 'The UFO Conspiracy - The First Forty Years' by Jenny Randles to do so. This is the book that finally got me hooked onto the subject of UFO's although I must warn you, If you were only a casual reader of UFO material before, you will be much more after reading the book. Another good point of this book is the price, unlike many other books of this calibre it has a very attractive price tag. I have the hard back copy and this cost me £4.99. I do not know if it available in paperback. It is available from Javelin Books.

I know that most people get fed up hearing about the same old stories over and over again and this is why I shall be trying to dig out information that you don't always get to hear about. I will start by giving you some totally useless information that you probably don't really care about. I found it total proof that our country is on a downhill path and my only excuse for placing it in a UFO magazine, apart from it being so stupid and UFOlogists are told that they are stupid, is that it happened to somebody who may have been present at one of Britains most famous UFO cases.

The Bentwaters Air Force Base was the subject of a UFO on December 1980 and both US and British Air Force men were chasing this 'UFO'.

In 1982, a member of the US Air Force left the base to return home feeling sure that he had sorted out his affairs in this country. He may have spotted the previously mentioned UFO, he may've found that strange, but not as strange as receiving a 1p bill from the electricity board, it was sent to his home address in the USA and he was asked to pay the bill promptly before any further action was taken. Luckily for the Air Force man, a friend in the UK agreed to pay the bill in Britain.

All of this coming from our government, the same government that calls us fanatics. I find that sending that bill was fanatical, don't you ?